

## Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 NSC-05 SSO-00

ACDE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /083 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4285

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MBFR VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 5858

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR

SUBJ: MBFR: OPTION III: AIR MANPOWER: SPC MEETING OCTOBER 27

REF: A. USNATO 5618 DTG 161034Z OCT 75;

B. STATE 254119 DTG 242344Z OCT 75

1. AT SPC MEETING OCTOBER 27, UK REP (BAILES) SAID THAT UK COULD NOW ACCEPT THE FRG FINAL TIC (FIRST "OR" VERSION) OF PARA 1 OF THE DRAFT GUIDANCE, RE CEILING ON GROUND FORCE MANPOWER WHICH MIGHT BE SET AT APPROXIMATELY 700,000, WITHIN A COMBINED COMMON CEILING WHICH MIGHT BE SET AT APPROXIMATELY 900,000 (TEXT IN REF A). UK MIGHT HAVE MORE TO SAY ABOUT AIR MANPOWER IN PARA 16 OF THE POSITION PAPER. (COMMENT: UK ACCEPTANCE OF THE FRG FINAL TIC OF PARA 1 MEANS THAT THE ONLY HOLD-OUT ON AIR MANPOWER ASPECTS OF THIS TIC IS BELGIUM, WHICH, NEVERTHELESS, HAS BEEN WORKING WITH IT, AND SUPPORTING SECRET

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THE GENERAL POSITION IT REPRESENTS, WITHOUT FORMALLY WITHDRAWING THE ALTERNATIVE BELGIAN PROPOSAL OF EXTENSION OF THE NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT ON AIR MANPOWER.)

2. US REP (MOORE), PER PARA 1, REF B, SAID THAT THE US WAS NOT ABLE TO ACCEPT THE BELGIAN SENTENCE FOR THIS TIC WHICH READ "WHEN APPROPRIATE, THE AHG SHOULD TELL THE OTHER SIDE THAT THE FOREGOING IS PROPOSED HAVING IN MIND THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATE PARITY IN AIR FORCE MANPOWER BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES". HE NOTED THAT BELGIAN REP AT PREVIOUS MEETING HAD WANTED TO AVOID STATING PRE-CONDITIONS, BUT THIS BELGIAN SENTENCE WAS IN EFFECT A PRE-CONDITION. IT WOULD IMPLY A POSITIONON REDEFINITION OF FORCES WHICH THE ALLIES HAVE AGREED THEY ARE UNABLE TO TAKE IN THE ABSENCE OF A DATA EXCHANGE. IT WOULD RAISE QUESTIONS BY THE EAST RE ALLIED POSITION ON REDEFINITION OF FORCES, AND EXACT MEANING OF "APPROXIMATE PARITY" OF AIR MANPOWER WHICH ALLIES ARE NOT PREPARED TO ANSWER.

3. NETHERLANDS REP (MEESMAN) SAID THE HAGUE AGREED FULLY WITH THE VIEWS STATED BY US REP.

4. BELGIAN REP (BURNY) INQUIRED ABOUT PREVIOUS US WILLINGNESS TO INCLUDE A STATEMENT IN THE POSITION PAPER ABOUT APPROXIMATE PARITY OF AIR MANPOWER. US REP SAID THAT THIS WOULD BE ALONG THE LINES OF REITERATING IN THE POSITION PAPER THAT ALLIED DATA SHOWS THAT THE AGGREGATE AIR FORCE MANPOWER TOTALS OF THE TWO SIDES ARE VERY CLOSE THOUGH WITH A SLIGHT WARSAW PACT SUPERIORITY. HOWEVER, AS US REP HAD PREVIOUSLY NOTED, THE AHG SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO MAKE THIS STATMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF INCLUSION OF AIR MANPOWER IN THE COMMON CEILING. BELGIAN REP SAID IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR US TO SUGGEST LANGUAGE.

5. THERE WAS NO FURTHER FRG COMMENT ON THE QUESTION OF A FLEXIBILITY MARGIN ON AIR MANPOWER.

6. COMMENT: IT MAY HELP TOWARD ELIMINATION OF THE PROPOSED BELGIAN SENTENCE ON APPROXIMATE PARITY OF AIR MANPOWER FOR THE US TO PROPOSE A SENTENCE FOR PARA 16 OF THE DRAFT POSITION PAPER. OUR SUGGESTION WOULD BE THE FOLLOWING: "THE AHG MAY CONTINUE TO POINT OUT, AS APPROPRIATE, THAT THE AGGREGATE AIR FORCE MANPOWER TOTALS OF THE TWO SIDES ARE VERY CLOSE, THOUGH  
SECRET

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WITH A SLIGHT WARSAW PACT SUPERIORITY."

7. ACTION REQUESTED: IN TIME FOR SPC MEETING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30: GUIDANCE ON A SENTENCE TO BE INCLUDED IN PARA 16 OF THE POSITION PAPER RE APPROXIMATE PARITY OF AIR MANPOWER, IN LIGHT OF COMMENT IN PARA 6 ABOVE. BRUCE

SECRET

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 18 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 OCT 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NATO05858  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197510101/abbrzmva.tel  
**Line Count:** 104  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** n/a  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. USNATO 5618 DTG 161034Z OCT 75; B. STATE 254119 DTG 242344Z OCT 75  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:** ANOMALY  
**Review Date:** 16 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <17 SEP 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MBFR: OPTION III: AIR MANPOWER: SPC MEETING OCTOBER 27  
**TAGS:** PARM, NATO, MBFR  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO MBFR VIENNA  
BONN  
LONDON  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR

**Type:** TE

**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006